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NEW YORK, FEB. 20 (AP)-FORMER OFFICIALS OF THE NATIONAL STUDENT ASSOCIATION SAID TODAY FUNDS FROM THE CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY WERE USED TO HELP YOUNG PEOPLE WHO FLED THEIR HOMELANDS IN AFRICA, THEN RULED BY EUROPEAN COLONIAL POWERS.

THEY SAID SUCH MONEY ALSO WENT TO WHITE OPPONENTS OF SOUTH AFRICA'S POLICY OF APARTHEID.

THE OFFICIALS SAID THE FUNDS WERE USED TO FINANCE SCHOLARSHIPS, TRAVEL AND OTHER EXPENSES FOR STUDENTS FROM ALGERIA, ANGOLA, MOZAMBIQUE, SOUTH AFRICA, SOUTHWEST AFRICA AND RHODESIA.

THE FORMER NSA OFFICIALS SAID THE CIA HAD NOT INFLUENCED THE ASSOCIATION'S POLICIES TOWARD THE STUDENTS.

"THE REAL TRAGEDY OF THE DISCLOSURE THAT THE NSA TOOK CIA MONEY IS THAT WE WERE DOING THINGS WE WOULD HAVE DONE ANYWAY IF WE HAD OTHER SOURCES OF FUNDS," SAID A FORMER INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS VICE PRESIDENT IN AN INTERVIEW WITH THE NEW YORK TIMES. "BUT NO ONE ELSE WAS INTERESTED IN HELPING THESE STUDENTS."

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